PATENT 0020-4843P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant:

Hiromi IKADAI et al.

Conf.:

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Appl. No.:

09/807,459

Group:

1645 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed:

June 14, 2001

Examiner: Baskar, P.

For:

GENE ENCODING PROTEIN FROM MEROZOITE OF BABESIA CABALLI, RECOMBINANT PROTEIN

OBTAINED WITH SAID GENE AND USE THEREOF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

October 15, 2002 (Tuesday After Columbus Day)

Sir:

response to the Restriction Requirement mailed In September 12, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

## REMARKS

Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372:

Group I: claims 1-3 and 7, drawn to a gene;

Group II: claims 4-6 and 11, drawn to a recombinant protein and antigen;

Group III: claims 8-10, drawn to an antibody;

Group IV: claim 12, drawn to a method for diagnosing equine babesiasis using a polypeptide; and

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Group V, claim 13, drawn to a method for diagnosing equine babesiasis using an antibody.

In response, Applicant elects the invention of Group II, claims 4-6 and 11, drawn to a recombinant protein and antigen, without traverse, in order to initiate prosecution in the present application.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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